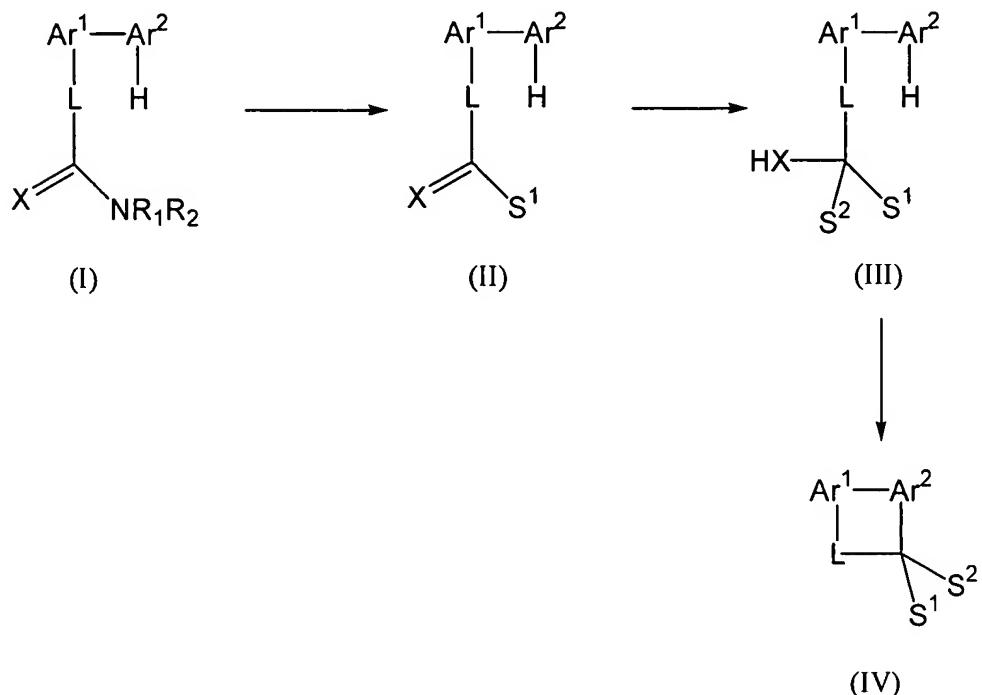


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of forming a compound of formula (IV):



said method comprising the steps of:

- a) reacting a compound of formula (I) with a compound of formula S¹-M to give a compound of formula (II);
- b) reacting the compound of formula (II) with a compound of formula S²-M to give a compound of formula (III); and
- c) eliminating H₂X from the compound of formula (III) to give a compound of formula (IV).

wherein

Ar^1 and Ar^2 are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl groups;

X is selected from O, S, NH and NR, O, S, NH or NR;

L is a bond or a linking group of 1-2 atoms,

~~R and R¹ and R₁~~ are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, arylalkyl and heteroaryl groups;

~~R² is selected R₂ is selected~~ from the group consisting of alkoxy, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, alkylaryloxy, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylarylthio and arylalkylthio;

H is bound to a carbon atom C' of Ar²;

C' and the carbon atom of C=X are separated by 3-5 atoms;

S¹ and S² are each selected from optionally substituted alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl groups,

M comprises a metal; and

M is linked to S¹ and S² by a carbon-metal bond.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein alkyl is C₁-C₂₀-alkyl, arylalkyl is C₇-C₂₀-arylalkyl, alkylaryl is C₇-C₂₀-alkylaryl, aryl is C₆-C₂₀-aryl, heteroaryl is C₅-C₂₀-heteroaryl, alkoxy is C₁-C₂₀-alkoxy, aryloxy is C₆-C₂₀-Aryloxy, arylalkyloxy is C₇-C₂₀-arylalkyloxy, alkylaryloxy is C₇-C₂₀-alkylaryloxy, alkylthio is C₁-C₂₀-alkylthio, arylthio is C₆-C₂₀-arylthio, alkylarylthio is C₇-C₂₀-alkylarylthio, arylalkylthio is C₇-C₂₀-arylalkylthio.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein Ar¹ and Ar² are phenyl or substituted phenyl.

4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~claim 1 or 2~~ wherein X is O or S.

5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein L is a bond.

6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein R is C₁-10 alkyl.

7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein R¹ is C₁-10 alkyl.

8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein R² is C₁-10 alkoxy.

9. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, any preceding claim wherein M is lithium, zinc or Mg-Hal wherein Hal is a halide.

10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, any preceding claim wherein S¹ and S² are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or alkyl.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, any preceding claim wherein S¹ and S² are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or alkyl and S¹ and S² are different are different from each other.

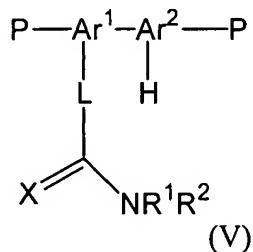
12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, any preceding claim wherein Ar¹ and Ar² of the compound of formula (I) are each substituted with a polymerisable group P.

13. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, any one of claims 1-10 comprising the further step of providing each of Ar¹ and Ar² of the compound of formula (II), (III) or (IV) with a polymerisable group P.

14. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 12, claim 12 or 13 wherein each polymerisable group P is independently selected from a halide or a boron derivative group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group; or a moiety of formula -O-SO₂-Z wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl.

15. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 12 or 13 wherein each polymerisable group P is independently a leaving group capable of participating in a polycondensation reaction reaction, more preferably a metal insertion reaction with a nickel or palladium complex catalyst.

16. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (V):



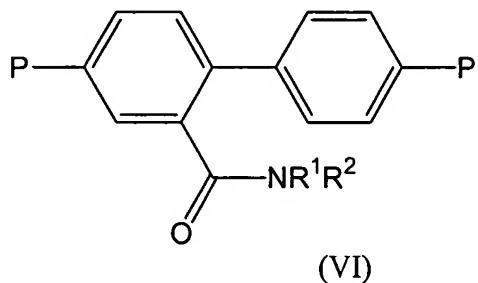
wherein

P, Ar¹, Ar², L, X, R¹ and R² are as defined in claim 1, any one of claims 1-14;
H is bound to a carbon atom C' of Ar²; and
C' and the carbon atom of C=X are separated by 3-5 atoms.

17. (Original) A compound according to claim 16 wherein each Ar¹ and Ar² is phenyl or substituted phenyl.
18. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, ~~claim 16 or 17~~ wherein X is O or S.
19. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, any one of claims 16-18 wherein L is a bond.
20. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, any one of claims 16-19 wherein each P is independently selected from a halide or a boron derivative group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group.
21. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, any one of claims 16-20 wherein R¹ is C1-10 alkyl.
22. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, any one of claims 16-21 wherein R² is C1-10 alkoxy.
23. (Currently amended) An compound of formula (VI):
Ar¹ and Ar² are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl groups;
X is selected from O, S, NH and NR; O, S, NH or NR;
L is a bond or a linking group of 1-2 atoms,
R and R¹ R and R₁ are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, arylalkyl and heteroaryl groups;
R² is selected R₂ is selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, alkylaryloxy, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylarylthio and arylalkylthio;
H is bound to a carbon atom C' of Ar²;
C' and the carbon atom of C=X are separated by 3-5 atoms;

S^1 and S^2 are each selected from optionally substituted alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl groups;
 M comprises a metal; and

M is linked to S^1 and S^2 by a carbon-metal bond.



wherein

~~P is as defined in claim 14, R¹ is as defined in claim 7 and R² is as defined in claim 8~~

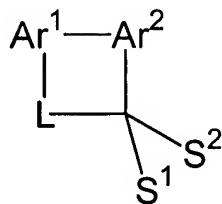
P is independently a halide or a boron derivative group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group; or a moiety of formula -O-SO₂-Z wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl

R¹ is C1-10 alkyl, and

R² is C1-10 alkoxy.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) A process to make the compounds of the formula (IV)



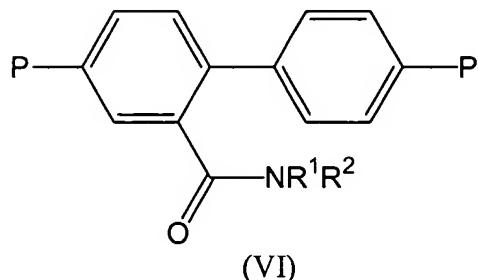
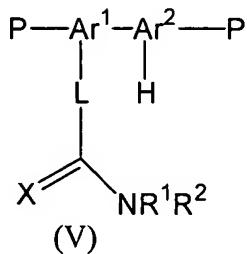
(IV)

Ar^1 and Ar^2 are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl groups;

L is a bond or a linking group of 1-2 atoms,

S¹ and S² are each optionally substituted alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl groups,

which comprises using the compounds of formula (V) and/or (VI)



P is independently a halide or a boron derivative group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group; or a moiety of formula -O-SO₂-Z wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl

R¹ is C1-10 alkyl, and

R² is C1-10 alkoxy,

Ar¹, Ar², and L are defined above,

X is O, S, NH or NR,

H is bound to a carbon atom C' of Ar²; and

C' and the carbon atom of C=X are separated by 3-5 atoms

26. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein

Ar¹ and Ar² are phenyl or substituted phenyl,

X is O or S,

L is a bond,

R is C1-10 alkyl,

R¹ is C1-10 alkyl,

R² is C1-10 alkoxy,

M is lithium, zinc or Mg-Hal wherein Hal is a halide,

S¹ and S² are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or alkyl and S¹ and S² are different from each other.